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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/996,208	11/28/2001	Gregory W. Cox	CML00090N(69611)	1240

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FITCH EVEN TABIN & FLANNERY
120 SOUTH LASALLE STREET
SUITE 1600
CHICAGO, IL 60603-3406

EXAMINER

HSU, ALPUS

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte: GREGORY W. COX & AARON M. SMITH

Application No. 09/996,208
Technology Center 2600

Mailed: November 10, 2009

Before DEBORAH L. PERRY, *Supervisory Paralegal Specialist, Review Team.*

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on September 28, 2009. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter requiring attention prior to docketing.

APPEAL BRIEF, SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellant filed a Supplemental Appeal Brief dated March 31, 2009.

The Appeal Brief is not in compliance with 37 CFR § 41.37(c) effective September 13, 2004.

According to 37 CFR § 41.37(c) (v), an Appeal Brief must include the following:

(v) *Summary Of Claimed Subject Matter.* A concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, which must refer to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters. < While reference to page and line number of the specification **>requires< somewhat more detail than simply summarizing the invention, it is considered important to enable the Board to more quickly determine where the claimed subject matter is described in the application. >For each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately under the provisions of 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vii), every means plus function and step plus function as permitted by 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, must be identified and the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function must be set forth with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters.

The “Summary of claimed subject matter” appearing on pages 2-3 of the Appeal Brief filed March 31, 2009, is deficient because it does not separately map independent claims 1, 8 and 11 to the specification (by line and page number).

The MPEP § 1205.03 states in part:

(B) When the Office holds the brief to be defective solely due to appellant's failure to provide a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v), an entire new brief need not, and should not, be filed. Rather, a paper providing a summary of the claimed subject matter as required by 37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v) will suffice. Failure to timely respond to the Office's requirement will result in dismissal of the appeal. See MPEP § 1215.04 and § 711.02(b).

It is unnecessary to refile the entire Brief, appellant may file a "paper" correcting the Summary of Claimed Subject Matter.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly,

it is ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) hold the Appeal Brief filed March 31, 2009, defective as required by 37 CFR § 41.37(d);
- 2) notify the Appellant to submit a "paper" which corrects the Appeal Brief's Summary of Claimed Subject Matter under 37 CFR §41.37(c)(1)(v);
- 3) acknowledge and consider any "paper" submitted by Appellant to correct the Appeal Brief; and
- 4) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

Application No. 09/996,208

DLP/jsd

FITCH EVEN TABIN & FLANNERY
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SUITE 1600
CHICAGO IL 60603-3406